
























**The Livestock Conservancy  
Quick Reference Guide to Heritage Sheep**

| Photos   | Breed                       | Origin        | CPL Status | Purpose <sup>1</sup> | Adult Weight M/F (lbs.) | Temperament       | Avg # Lambs | Mothering         | Experience              | Foraging  | Climate   | Uses and Notes   |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
|    | <b>Barbados Blackbelly</b>  | Caribbean     | Recovering | Meat                 | 100-130/85-100          | Alert but docile  | 2.5         | Good to excellent | Novice/<br>intermediate | Excellent | Hot/humid | Prolific; polled; hair sheep   |
|    | <b>Black Welsh Mountain</b> | Wales         | Threatened | Wool                 | 130/100-110             | Variable by flock | 1.75        | Excellent         | Novice                  | Excellent | Cold/damp | Ewes will "park" young lambs while foraging; do not flock tightly, and will wander from each other |
|    | <b>Clun Forest</b>          | England       | Threatened | Dual                 | 200/150                 | Docile            | 1.75        | Excellent         | Novice                  | Excellent | Temperate | Selected for production  |
|    | <b>Cotswold</b>             | England       | Threatened | Dual                 | 250/175                 | Docile            | 2           | Excellent         | Intermediate            | Good      | Temperate | Luster longwool  |
|   | <b>Dorset Horn</b>          | England       | Threatened | Dual                 | 200/160                 | Docile            | 2           | Excellent         | Novice/<br>intermediate | Average   | Temperate | Breed out of season  |
|  | <b>Florida Cracker</b>      | United States | Critical   | Meat                 | 125-200/90-160          | Alert but docile  | 1.25        | Excellent         | Novice/<br>intermediate | Excellent | Hot/humid | Usually polled   |
|  | <b>Gulf Coast</b>           | United States | Critical   | Meat                 | 125-200/90-160          | Alert but docile  | 1.25        | Excellent         | Novice/<br>intermediate | Excellent | Hot/humid | Horned or polled   |
|  | <b>Hog Island</b>           | United States | Critical   | Meat                 | 125-150/90-100          | Alert but docile  | 1.5         | Excellent         | Intermediate            | Excellent | Adaptable | Horned or polled   |

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|    | <b>Jacob (American)</b>   | England, then USA | Threatened | Wool                 | 160/110                 | Docile           | 1.5         | Excellent                   | Novice/intermediate | Excellent | Temperate | Two, four, or occasionally six, horns  |
|    | <b>Karakul (American)</b> | Iran, then USA    | Threatened | Triple*              | 200/180                 | Docile           | 1           | Excellent                   | Novice/intermediate | Good      | Cold/dry  | Fat-rumped; horned; produce carpet wool in wide range of colors                                |
|    | <b>Leicester Longwool</b> | England           | Threatened | Wool                 | 250/180                 | Docile           | 2           | Good once bonded with lambs | Advanced            | Good      | Temperate | Large, slow-growing; luster longwool   |
|    | <b>Lincoln</b>            | England           | Threatened | Wool                 | 270/225                 | Docile           | 2           | Good                        | Intermediate        | Good      | Temperate | Large, slow-growing; luster longwool   |
|   | <b>Navajo-Churro</b>      | United States     | Critical   | Dual                 | 120-200/ 85-120         | Alert but docile | 1.25        | Excellent                   | Novice/Intermediate | Excellent | Cold/dry  | Horned or polled; some with four horns; <u>desert adapted</u> ; prolific; wide range of colors |
|  | <b>Oxford</b>             | England           | Watch      | Meat                 | 270/175                 | Docile           | 2           | Excellent                   | Novice/Intermediate | Good      | Temperate | Large; <u>sire breed</u>   |
|  | <b>Romeldale/ CVM</b>     | United States     | Critical   | Dual                 | 275/160                 | Docile           | 1.75        | Good                        | Novice/Intermediate | Good      | Hot/dry   | Prolific, long-lived; wide range of colors   |
|  | <b>Santa Cruz</b>         | United States     | Critical   | Wool                 | 100-150/80-100          | Alert but docile | 1.25        | Excellent                   | Intermediate        | Excellent | Hot/dry   | Feral sheep with good survival traits  |
|  | <b>St. Croix</b>          | Carribbean        | Threatened | Meat                 | 165/140                 | Docile           | 1.75        | Good to excellent           | Novice/Intermediate | Excellent | Hot/humid | Prolific; hair sheep   |

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|    | <b>Shetland</b>       | England                               | Recovering | Wool                 | 110/85                  | Docile          | 1.5         | Good to excellent | Novice/<br>Intermediate | Excellent | Cold/damp | small sheep with wide range of colors   |
|    | <b>Shropshire</b>     | England                               | Watch      | Meat*                | 240/170                 | Docile          | 2           | Good              | Novice/<br>Intermediate | Good      | Temperate | is a dual purpose breed that can be considered for milk production  |
|    | <b>Southdown</b>      | England                               | Recovering | Meat                 | 200/150                 | Docile          | 2           | Good to excellent | Novice/<br>Intermediate | Excellent | Temperate | Small; rapid growth rate; traditional type calls for short animals, but many show-type Southdowns have become overly tall         |
|    | <b>Teeswater</b>      | United Kingdom,<br>then United States | Critical   | Dual                 | 260/200                 | Alert, Spirited | 2           | Good              | Intermediate            | Good      | Temperate | Large, slow-growing, low-lanolin, kemp-free lustre longwool. May be shorn up to twice a year. Terminal sires in country of origin |
|   | <b>Tunis</b>          | United States                         | Watch      | Meat                 | 200-275/125-175         | Docile          | 2           | Excellent         | Novice/<br>Intermediate | Good      | Temperate | Polled; southern adapted; prolific  |
|  | <b>Wiltshire Horn</b> | England                               | Recovering | Meat                 | 230/145                 | Variable        | 2           | Excellent         | Intermediate            | Good      | Hot/dry   | Horned; hair sheep  |